

Student Visa and U.S. Higher Education

A U.S. Consulate General, Hyderabad Face book Chat, held on July 11th, 2014 from 03:00pm – 04:00pm

Facebook Chat Transcript

<u>US Vice Consul:</u> Welcome to Facebook Fridays, students! Do you have any questions left? If so, now is the time to ask. --Visa Officer

Student: hi I am a postgraduate from pharmacy completed in 2012 now working for a pharmaceutical company from the past 7 months .could u tell me what are the opportunities that i can have if i did MS in USA

US Vice Consul: To learn about studying and working in the U.S., please visit the USCIS website.

Student: I have completed Mtech in India. I want to know what the procedure to do Ph.D. in USA is. And what is the duration of the course?

<u>US Vice Consul:</u> Dear Srinivas, to learn more about studying in the U.S. please contact the US-India Education Foundation. This forum is for questions about visas only. Good luck.

<u>Student</u>: I've a doubt here my university does not require GRE. When i come for my visa interview, is it compulsory to have GRE with me?

<u>US Vice Consul:</u> The only two requirements to apply for a US student visa are an approved I-20 and a valid passport. Consular officers may ask about your GRE and other aspects of your academic and/or professional history to make a final determination. Officers evaluate the totality of your application. An applicant for a student visa (F-1 or M-1) must demonstrate the following:

- Acceptance at a school.
- Possession of sufficient funds.
- Minimum preparation for course of study.
- Present intent to leave the United States at conclusion of studies

<u>Student</u>: On my I-20 Student orientation date is Sept 2nd, 2014. How long i can attend for visa interview? Is it possible to attend visa interview a week before of my orientation date mentioned on my I-20?

<u>US Vice Consul:</u> You may apply up to 120 days prior to your start date listed on the I-20, and yes, you may apply right up until that date; we advise you apply as soon as you have all your admits and have made a final decision on where you want to attend school.

<u>Student</u>: my Wife is presently pursuing her Mtech; she completed her B.Tech in the year of 2008, after that she worked for 2year then got married me and I'm. After that Kid Happened now he is in school, in her mind always she wanted to MS in USA. my question to you is after so much of Long Gap She can go for Student Visa or She can't and if yes weather she has to do MS or Research??? Suggest me.

<u>US Vice Consul:</u> Applicants of any age may apply for a student visa. They need only an approved I-20 form (i.e., admission) and a valid passport.

<u>Student</u>: I got rejected for NPU and VO gave me 214b form. But VO didn't question me anything which was mentioned in 214b form. So what was the exact reason for rejection?

<u>US Vice Consul:</u> An applicant for a student visa (F-1 or M-1) must demonstrate the following: acceptance at a school; possession of sufficient funds; minimum preparation for course of study; and present intent to leave the United States at conclusion of studies. If the officer believes that one or more of these have not been met, he or she cannot approve the visa.

<u>Student</u>: It is my friend's case. During the interview he mentioned that he got 3 admits out of 6. Actually he got only 1 and he got rejected. Will it be a problem for him if he attends for another VI?

<u>US Vice Consul:</u> it is important for applicants to answer the questions officer ask, and to answer them truthfully. Officers know about applicants' prior interviews, so honesty is the best policy.

<u>US Vice Consul:</u> Individuals whose nonimmigrant visa applications were refused are eligible to reapply. However, we do not recommend that applicants reapply unless they are able to present significant new evidence that addresses the previous grounds for refusal.

<u>Student</u>: i have one question regarding Universities. Officer if we reject on one university later we getting better university admission then previous one why Visa Officer will ask why you change the university? for this question we will explain the reason then again they will ask why not previous university we will just change if we get better university then previous not for the reason visa rejection

<u>US Vice Consul:</u> Which school you choose to attend is not nearly as important as why you choose to attend it; if you feel that your new university is better, and then be prepared to explain that if the officer asks. Keep in mind that consular officers evaluate the totality of a student's situation, including their academic preparation for the proposed course of study, their intent to study while in the United States, and their ability to fund their program of study.

Student: My F1 visa was rejected 3 times in the month of June. I booked my slot again on 17th. No particular reason was mentioned by the visa officer. Profile:-UG%-58% & backlog history of 18 which i cleared all the subjects within the exact period of time & currently i have no active backlogs.

May 2014 passed out gre-286 ielts-6 got my i20 for MS in electrical engineering at Lawrence Technological University, Michigan I think i was rejected because of my low UG% & backlogs as the officer asked me about it in my previous two interviews. Now do i have any chance of getting F1 visa?

<u>US Vice Consul:</u> Applicants who were refused a visa are eligible to reapply; all visa applications are given every possible consideration consistent with U.S. immigration law. However, there is never a guarantee that any applicant will have their visa approved.

<u>US Vice Consul:</u> Thank you all - that concludes another weekly installment of Facebook Fridays. We hope to have answered your questions. Best of luck!